

1 Nada Smith

2 A. That they wanted their money back?

3 Q. That they wanted their money back,
4 because they didn't get what Julio promised
5 them.

6 A. I would report to my father, but
7 he told me to let Julio handle it, since he
8 knows the finance and the client and
9 everything.

10 Q. Do you know if your father would
11 ever follow up with Julio on that?

12 A. He did a few times.

13 Q. Would you ever follow up with
14 Julio?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. On those complaints?

17 A. Yeah, and he always told me that

18 he handled them and everything was fine and
19 everything was okay.

20 Q. Did you ever witness Julio tell a
21 customer that if the customer would provide him
22 with money on that day, he would refinance
23 their loan?

24 A. No, I never witnessed that.

25 Q. Did you ever see a customer leave

1 Nada Smith

2 the dealership to go to a bank and come back
3 with money and hand it to Julio?

4 A. No, if the client left, I didn't
5 ask him where he was going.

6 Q. I'm just going to show you some
7 documents here.

8 MR. LANE: We're going to mark
9 these. We're going to bundle them
10 together and mark them as Plaintiff's
11 Exhibit 3. There's no reason to
12 separate them -- I take that back, I am
13 going to separate this. So this is
14 going to be marked as Plaintiff's
15 Exhibit 3.

16 (Two-page document entitled "NYC
17 Department of Consumer Affairs Notice of
18 Hearing" is marked as Plaintiff's
19 Exhibit 3 for identification, as of this
20 date.)

21 Q. We are going to put this in front
22 of you. Just take a look at it and let me know
23 if you recognize the document.

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Can you look at the second page.

1 Nada Smith

2 A. Mm-hmm.

3 Q. Is that your signature at the
4 bottom?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What is that document?

7 A. That's Consumer Affairs. This is
8 I think one of the inspections that the lady
9 came.

10 Q. When you signed this document at
11 the bottom of page two, did you sign in the
12 area marked for "Respondent"?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And did you indicate that your
15 title at the dealership was "manager"?

16 A. That's not what I told her. I
17 told her I was the owner's daughter, so she
18 said just to put down "manager."

19 Q. You put "manager" at the advice of
20 the Department of Consumer Affairs
21 investigator?

22 A. Well, she asked me who I was. I
23 told her I was the owner's daughter -- I was
24 going to write, you know, that -- and she said,
25 "Just put down 'manager.'"

1 Nada Smith

2 MR. LANE: I'm going to mark this
3 as Exhibit 4.

4 (Two-page document entitled "NYC
5 Department of Consumer Affairs Notice of
6 Hearing" is marked as Plaintiff's
7 Exhibit 4 for identification, as of this
8 date.)

9 MR. LANE: Let's go off the
10 record.

11 (A discussion is held off the
12 record. Time noted: 12:19 p.m.)

13 (A brief recess is taken.)

14 oOo

15 Q. On Exhibit 3, you indicated that
16 you did sign that document?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And you identified yourself as the
19 manager. Did you ever tell anybody that you
20 were a manager of New York Motor Group?

21 A. No.

22 Q. Did you ever tell anyone that your
23 title was anything other than "office
24 assistant" at New York Motor Group?

25 A. I never told anyone my position.

1 Nada Smith

2 Q. Did you ever tell anyone that you
3 were the controller for New York Motor Group?

4 A. No, I don't recall.

5 Q. I'm going to show you another
6 Department of Consumer Affairs document. It's
7 marked as Exhibit 4. Could you take a look at
8 that?

9 A. Mm-hmm. Okay.

10 Q. Do you recognize that?

11 A. Yes. It was the other inspection
12 paper that the lady came in with. I'm pretty
13 sure it was a lady.

14 Q. Did you sign the second page of
15 that document?

16 MR. SIMON: I just want to look at
17 it.

18 Q. Did you sign the second page of
19 that document?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Of Exhibit 4?

22 A. Yes.

23 MR. LANE: I want to give your
24 counsel a copy, so you can have the
25 exhibit in front of you. Okay.

1 Nada Smith

2 Q. Did you sign that document on
3 behalf of New York Motor Group?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. When you signed that document, did
6 you identify yourself as the controller?

7 A. No, I told her I handled office
8 work.

9 Q. Why did you write "controller"?

10 A. She said that's a controller
11 position.

12 Q. I just want to go back and make
13 sure I'm understanding the full scope of your
14 role at New York Motor Group.

15 MR. LANE: Strike that.

16 Q. So while you were at New York
17 Motor Group, you did speak with investigators
18 for the New York City Department of Consumer
19 Affairs?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Do you have a sense of how many
22 times you spoke with the New York City
23 Department of Consumer Affairs investigator?

24 A. Those two times when they came.

25 Q. Were there any other times?

1 Nada Smith

2 A. I don't remember, honestly.

3 Q. Were there ever any other
4 complaints -- not just Department of Consumer
5 Affairs investigations, but any other
6 complaints from anyone about the dealership
7 during the time you were working there?

8 A. Like from clients?

9 Q. From customers.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Were there complaints from
12 customers in the fall of 2012?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Were you aware of any complaints
15 about Angel Santiago?

16 A. No.

17 Q. You had said that there were many
18 complaints in the last few months?

19 A. Mm-hmm.

20 Q. But did you ever receive
21 complaints prior to that?

22 A. Prior?

23 Q. Prior to that.

24 A. If I did, I don't remember. It
25 was probably, like, once or twice or a few

1 Nada Smith

2 times, but I wouldn't -- it wasn't to the point
3 where I would remember. It wasn't as bad.

4 Q. So it's possible, though, that
5 there were complaints before the summer of
6 2013?

7 A. I'm not sure, because all the
8 complaints that came in, like I said, I handed
9 them to Julio. So if there were --

10 Q. Would you make any record of the
11 complaints?

12 A. No. Not until the last few
13 months, like I said.

14 Q. What record would you make of a
15 complaint?

16 A. Oh, it was just in my mind, it
17 wasn't paper or anything like that.

18 Q. The other thing is you've
19 testified that you didn't receive any payment
20 for your work while you were at New York Motor
21 Group; is that right?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. And at the time, you were living
24 with your father?

25 A. I was living at home. If I needed

1 Nada Smith

2 anything, my father was right there. You know,
3 food was there. I had a roof over my head.

4 Q. Would your father give you cash?

5 A. I don't know. I don't remember.

6 He just -- if I needed money he would give me
7 money.

8 Q. Would he generally give you cash?

9 A. I don't remember. He has cards,
10 he has cash, he has everything, so whatever.

11 Q. Did you have a bank account?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Would you take money that your
14 father gave you and put it in a bank account?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Would you use that money to buy
17 food for yourself?

18 A. I lived at home. There was food
19 there.

20 Q. Would you use that money to buy
21 clothes for yourself?

22 A. It was my personal money.

23 Q. I understand. Do you have a sense
24 of how much money your father gave you --

25 A. No.

1 Nada Smith

2 Q. -- in 2013?

3 What bank did you deposit your
4 money in?

5 A. I don't remember, honestly, if it
6 was -- I don't remember which bank it was,
7 honestly. I'm sorry.

8 Q. Did you have more than one bank
9 account?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Was it in Queens?

12 MR. SIMON: Note my objection to
13 the questions about my client's personal
14 bank account.

15 MR. LANE: Why? What is the basis
16 for the objection?

17 MR. SIMON: I'm trying to figure
18 out what the relevancy of the questions
19 are. She's living at home -- she
20 testified -- with her parents. Her
21 parents are taking care of her. Her
22 parents are giving her a car. Her
23 parents are paying for everything.

24 MR. LANE: This is a lawsuit where
25 there are allegations of fraud and

1 Nada Smith
2 dishonesty. And Ms. Smith has testified
3 that she didn't make any income and
4 didn't file taxes for almost two years,
5 and now she is testifying that she
6 received money from her father on a
7 regular basis and deposited it into a
8 bank account.

9 MR. SIMON: He paid for her
10 wedding.

11 MR. LANE: It is extremely
12 relevant, because I believe it goes to
13 honesty if she is being paid large sums
14 of money or any sum of money, using it,
15 and then not filing taxes. So that's
16 entirely relevant.

17 *RQ We're going to call for the
18 production of information related to
19 where she banked, and how much money she
20 was paid by her father during the time
21 she worked at the New York Motor Group.

22 MR. SIMON: If her father pays for
23 her wedding, that's taxable to her, you
24 believe?

25 MR. LANE: I'm not talking about

1 Nada Smith

2 whether or not the father pays for the
3 wedding -- we are on the record. I was
4 talking about the money she was paid on
5 a regular basis, which she said that she
6 deposited in the bank.

7 THE WITNESS: I never said I was
8 paid on a regular basis.

9 MR. SIMON: Let's go back on the
10 record.

11 MR. LANE: We were on the record
12 the whole time.

13 THE WITNESS: I never said I got
14 paid on a regular basis.

15 Q. How often did your father give you
16 cash?

17 MR. LANE: I'm sorry, strike that.

18 Q. How often would your father give
19 you money when you worked at New York Motor
20 Group?

21 MR. SIMON: Objection to the form
22 of the question. I believe she lived
23 with both parents.

24 Q. The question was how often your
25 father gave you money?

1 Nada Smith

2 A. It wasn't only my father.

3 Q. How often did your father give you
4 money when you worked at New York Motor Group?

5 A. A little bit, you know. Whenever
6 I asked him, he gave it to me.

7 Q. How often would you ask him?

8 A. I don't know. Whenever I needed
9 it. It wasn't weekly or daily or anything like
10 that, though.

11 Q. Would you ever ask your stepmother
12 for money?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And she would give you money as
15 well?

16 A. My dad's card or her card, you
17 know.

18 Q. Would she give you cash?

19 A. No.

20 Q. While you worked at New York Motor
21 Group, was your stepmother the owner of Planet
22 Motor Cars?

23 A. I don't know who the owner of
24 Planet Motor Cars is. I told you that.

25 *RQ MR. LANE: Again, I am going to

1 Nada Smith

2 reiterate that we are going to call for
3 information about money paid by
4 Mr. Eltouby or his wife to Ms. Smith
5 during the time she worked at New York
6 Motor Group; and information related to
7 where this money was deposited, into
8 which banks.

9 Q. Again, I just want to be clear on
10 this.

11 MR. LANE: I'm sorry, just give me
12 one second.

13 MR. SIMON: You have to remain
14 quiet. Let him finish his questions.

15 MR. LANE: We are on the record.

16 Q. So again, to be clear, you have
17 testified that your father did pay you money
18 while you were working at New York Motor Group?

19 A. No. I lived at home. My father
20 supported me. I was not paid while I was
21 working at New York Motor Group. If I needed
22 money, I would ask my dad for it. I lived at
23 home. He supported me.

24 Q. Again, how much money do you think
25 your father gave you during 2012 and 2013?

1 Nada Smith

2 MR. SIMON: Note my objection to
3 the form of the question. You mean if
4 she went out and bought a dress and used
5 the father's credit card or the mother's
6 credit card? Is that money that they're
7 paying her? I don't understand the
8 question.

9 MS. LINDERMAYER: If she
10 understands -- we noted your objection.
11 If she understands the question.

12 MR. SIMON: Then I will object to
13 the form of the question, because you're
14 saying "How much did they pay you?"

15 MR. LANE: Okay.

16 Q. How much money did you receive
17 from your father during 2012?

18 MR. SIMON: Note my objection to
19 the form of the question. It may have
20 been money that was paid to a retail
21 store.

22 MR. LANE: You have objected to
23 the form.

24 Q. If you understand my question,
25 please answer it.

1 Nada Smith

2 MR. SIMON: I'm objecting to the
3 whole line of questioning. We are not
4 accepting any more of these questions.

5 MR. LANE: Are you ordering her
6 not to answer questions about payments
7 made to her by her father?

8 MR. SIMON: She already did.

9 THE WITNESS: I never received any
10 payments.

11 MR. LANE: Okay, I think we should
12 get the magistrate on the phone.

13 MR. SIMON: Do you want to wait
14 until we finish, until the end? Do you
15 want to continue with any more questions
16 or do you want to interrupt right now?

17 MR. LANE: Do you want to table
18 it?

19 MS. LINDERMAYER: Yes.

20 MR. LANE: That's right. We are
21 going to table this question for the
22 magistrate and we'll get him on the
23 phone before the end of the day.

24 MR. GROSSMAN: Counsel, may I ask
25 you a question before you go to another

1 Nada Smith

2 line of questioning?

3 MR. LANE: Sure.

4 MR. GROSSMAN: For logistical

5 purposes, are we going to take a

6 half-hour break for lunch or are you

7 planning to go straight through?

8 MR. LANE: We will take a break.

9 Because you're going to ask questions.

10 MR. GROSSMAN: When you're done,

11 yes.

12 MR. LANE: Bob, do you plan to ask

13 questions of Ms. Smith?

14 MR. BRENER: I don't believe so.

15 MR. LANE: It's quarter of one.

16 How about we go to 1:15?

17 MR. GROSSMAN: Whatever you want.

18 MR. LANE: I'm sorry, I've gotten

19 a little disorganized and lost track of

20 my outline here.

21 MS. LINDERMAYER: I'm sorry,

22 Richard, please don't coach your client

23 during this deposition.

24 MR. SIMON: I object to your

25 directive. I mean, we're taking a break

1 Nada Smith

2 in the deposition.

3 MS. LINDERMAYER: You're still not
4 allowed to coach your client about how
5 to answer questions.

6 MR. SIMON: I'm not coaching.
7 We're just discussing, we're trying to
8 figure out exactly how old she was that
9 year.

10 MS. LINDERMAYER: So you're
11 helping her figure out the answer to the
12 question?

13 MR. SIMON: No. I'm trying to
14 figure out the answer to the question,
15 because we're going to discuss this with
16 the magistrate. I've got to say,
17 "Judge, she was the blank-year-old
18 daughter of the owner." I'm preparing
19 for the discussion with the magistrate.
20 I'm not coaching my client.

21 MR. LANE: Back on the record.

22 MS. LINDERMAYER: That was on the
23 record, we have been on the record.

24 MR. LANE: So we have never been
25 off the record. Wonderful.

1 Nada Smith

2 Q. When you worked at New York Motor
3 Group, how many hours a day would you work
4 there?

5 A. I was there all day.

6 Q. Roughly how many hours a day?

7 A. It depends. Sometimes I went in
8 to work at 11:00, 10:00. And I left around
9 7:00 or 7:30.

10 Q. What were the business hours for
11 the New York Motor Group?

12 A. 10:00 to 8:00 or 9:00 to 8:00, one
13 of them. I'm not sure.

14 Q. How many days a week would you
15 work there?

16 A. Monday through Saturday.

17 Q. Was the dealership open on Sunday?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. You would not work on Sunday?

20 A. No.

21 Q. I'm sorry, you said that you came
22 in generally at 10:00 or 11:00?

23 A. Mm-hmm.

24 Q. And the dealership's hours were
25 10:00 to when?

1 Nada Smith

2 A. Eight -- 7:30 or 8:00.

3 Q. Who would open the dealership?

4 A. We had someone that opened and
5 closed. His name was Juan.

6 Q. Juan?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. What was Juan's job?

9 A. Porter -- well, not really porter.
10 He just handled the dealership outside. Took
11 care of the dealership outside of the vehicles,
12 cleaned the vehicles, and everything like that.

13 Q. I've asked you about Hillside
14 Motors before, and you indicated that you did
15 not work there?

16 A. No.

17 Q. You also indicated that someone in
18 your family owns Hillside?

19 A. To my acknowledgment, yes. I
20 don't know who owns it exactly.

21 Q. If you were ever speaking to a
22 customer who was complaining about New York
23 Motor Group, did you ever send them to go speak
24 to people at Hillside Motors?

25 A. No.

1 Nada Smith

2 Q. Do you know anyone who works at
3 Hillside Motors?

4 A. No.

5 Q. Did you ever know anyone who ever
6 worked at Hillside Motors?

7 A. My sister for a little bit, but
8 that's it.

9 Q. Which sister?

10 A. One of my sisters.

11 Q. What is the name of your sister
12 who worked at Hillside Motors?

13 A. Menah. M-E-N-A-H.

14 Q. M-E-N-A-H?

15 A. Mm-hmm.

16 Q. When did she work at Hillside?

17 A. She was in and out a lot. I'm not
18 sure.

19 Q. Do you know what she did at
20 Hillside?

21 A. Internet sales.

22 Q. Is she younger or older than you?

23 A. Younger.

24 Q. Do you know how old she is now?

25 A. Twenty-two.

1 Nada Smith

2 Q. Is she working there now?

3 A. No.

4 Q. You had said that filing the deal
5 documents was a big part of your job?

6 A. It was a part of my job.

7 Q. Part of your job. So are you
8 familiar with documents that would be in the
9 deal folders?

10 A. I would say so.

11 Q. I'm going to show you some
12 documents from some of the transactions in
13 these cases. I will just ask you some
14 questions about them.

15 MR. LANE: I'm going to mark this
16 as Plaintiff's Exhibit 5.

17 (One-page document is marked as
18 Plaintiff's Exhibit 5 for
19 identification, as of this date.)

20 Q. Take a look at that document. Do
21 you recognize that document?

22 MR. SIMON: I just want to take a
23 look at it.

24 A. It looks familiar.

25 Q. Is that a document that someone at